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INQUIRE=DOC19D
ITEM NO=00054205

ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX177 MCN = 92241/41653 TOR = 922412317
RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS5127 2412320-CCCC--RUEALGX.

ZNY CCCCC

HEADER

R 282320Z AUG 92

FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUCGDEF/NATS PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC
RUEALGX/SAFE

R 282301Z AUG 92

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2619
INFO RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 8840
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 0074
RUEBMRA/USCUSTMS WASHDC 0482
RUEHNA/DEA WASHDC//OI/OC/OC SNOWCAP//
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 3830
RUCBLBA/USCG IMLET PORTSMOUTH VA
RULSJGA/COGARD WASHDC//AOO/AO/AI
RUENAAA/CNO WASHDC//OP-603//
RULSSGG/COMDT COGARD//OLE/O/CI/M
RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC//J3-CNOD//
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC
RHEHOND/ONDCP WASHDC
RUCOLKA/SEAL TEAM FOUR
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCDC/SCJ3/SCJ3DJTF/SCJ5/SCCG
RUWMEGA/NSWUEIGHT RODMAN NS PM
RUFRFHA/SPECBOATU TWO SIX RODMAN//NS PM
RUCOLAA/COMNAVSPCWARGRU TWO//NORFOLK VA/N2/N3//
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 5610
RUCOSYA/CINCLANTFLT DET SO FT AMADOR PM//N3/N5//
RUWMEGA/USCINCSO HOWARD AFB PM//SCJ3-DDD/
RUCBSAA/CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA//N5//
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//ISA-IA/SO-LIC//

BT

CONTROLS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 LA PAZ 013875

STATE PASS TO INM/ARA
STATE PASS TO INM/P LTC BEN CASSIDY

E.O. 12356: DECL/OADR

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

TAGS: SNAR, BL

SUBJECT: WATERWAYS LAW ENFORCEMENT (WLE) PROGRAM

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE	IS/FPC/CDR	Date: 5/26/95
	MR Cases Only:	EO Citations
RELEASE	☒ DECLASSIFY	TS authority to:
	☐ EXCISE	
☐ DENY	☐ DECLASSIFY as	() S or () C OADR
FOIA Exemptions		
PA Exemptions		

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SUMMARY

1. (U) THE WLE PROGRAM ABSTRACT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 1992 FOLLOWS:

I.TASK FORCES	OPS SORTIES/ HRS	TRNG HOURS	LOGTS SORTIES	MAINT DAYS
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TRINIDAD	35/2016	24	2	54
PUERTO VILLARROEL	22/1152	00	0	38
RIBERALTA	34/1344	00	0	36
GUAYARAMERIN	34/1824	60	0	49

SUPPORT VESSELS

MS-341	1/264	0	0	17
MS-223	4/288	0	0	17
MS-224	3/312	0	0	17
SAVIA	1/168	0	0	10

II. EMPLOYMENT MISSIONS

TASK FORCES	BOARDINGS	BLOCKADES	LAND INSERTS	LISTENING OPS
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TRINIDAD	40	31	52	48
PUERTO VILLARROEL	17	6	31	6
RIBERALTA	28	10	30	13
GUAYARAMERIN	32	19	78	11

(NOTE: TASK FORCE STATISTICS ARE TOTALS FOR ALL PATROL BOATS PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED TO THE BASES DENOTED. OPERATIONS MAY, OR MAY NOT, HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED WITHIN THE INDICATED BASE'S AREA OF OPERATION. OPERATING HOUR AND SORTIE STATISTICS REPORTED ABOVE DO NOT INCLUDE ZODIAC AND CANOE OPERATIONS WHICH WERE CONSIDERABLE DURING THE PERIOD.)

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III. OPERATIONAL STATISTICS FOR WLE PROGRAM

BASE LAB(2)	02
PASTE LAB(S)	01
AGUA RICA	30 LTS
DIESEL	300 LTS
LIME	33 KGS
SODIUM BICARBONATE	02 KGS
SULFURIC ACID	03 LTS
HF RADIO	01

2. (U) PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE BOLIVIAN WLE TASK FORCE (RTF) AS OF JUNE 30, 1992:

TASK FORCES	OFFICIALS	SUB-OFFICIALS	SERGEANTS
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/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/

TRINIDAD RTF	04	04	00
HDQTS			

TRINIDAD	04	07	01
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PUERTO VILLARROEL	04	04	04
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RIBERALTA	04	03	05
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GUAYA. AMERIN	06	04	08
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SUPPORT VESSELS	04	03	03
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3. (C) PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

(A) OPERATION GHOST ZONE WAS THE PRIMARY FOCUS FOR WLE FORCES DURING THE PERIOD. UTILIZING THE TWO TEMPORARY FORWARD OPERATING BASES (FOBS) LOCATED WITHIN THE CHAPARE REGION, WLE FORCES EFFECTIVELY CLOSED DOWN THE RIVERS IN THIS REGION AS A TRANSPORTATION NETWORK FOR NARCO-TRAFFICKERS. A GOOD INTELLIGENCE SOURCE REPORTED THAT AS A RESULT OF THE WLE OPERATIONS ON THE RIVERS IN THIS REGION AND THE CN AIRCAP, THE NARCO-TRAFFICKERS HAVE ABANDONED THE RIVERS AND ARE RESORTING TO MAN-PACKING COCAINE PASTE AROUND THE WESTERN ENDS OF THE RIOS ICHOA AND SECURE INTO THE AREA CALLED LA MEDIA WHERE THE PASTE IS FLOWN OUT FROM "LEGAL" AIRSTRIPS. THIS MONTH'S TOTAL OF 6,336 PATROL BOAT HOURS IS THE HIGHEST TOTAL EVER ACHIEVED FOR THIS PROGRAM. THIS FEAT IS EVEN MORE

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NOTABLE WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE HIGH LEVEL OF ZODIAC AND CANOE OPERATIONS WLE FORCES CONDUCTED DURING THE SAME PERIOD. THESE BOAT HOUR STATISTICS WERE THE MOST IMPORTANT MEASURE OF EFFECTIVENESS DURING THIS PERIOD BECAUSE WLE FORCES WERE ESSENTIALLY A DETERRENT FORCE WHICH FORCED THE NARCO-TRAFFICKERS FROM THE RIVERS. SEIZURE STATISTICS WERE MINIMAL BECAUSE OF THIS. ALL AVAILABLE WLE FORCES WERE EMPLOYED TO EXECUTE THIS HIGH PRIORITY MISSION INCLUDING OPERATIONAL ASSETS AND PERSONNEL FROM THE RIBERALTA AND GUAYARAMERIN BASES. THESE FORCES CONTINUED THEIR DEPLOYMENT IN THE GHOST ZONE OPERATIONAL AREA AUGMENTING EXISTING FORCES FROM THE TRINIDAD AND PUERTO VILLARROEL BASES. BARRIER PATROL OPERATIONS AND DAILY PATROLS WERE CONDUCTED ON THE RIVERS SYSTEMS WITHIN THE OPERATING AREA USING BOTH SMALL PATROL BOATS (22'S), ZODIACS, AND INDIGENOUS CANOES. ALL MAINTENANCE AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT WAS CONDUCTED FROM THE TRINIDAD BASE WITH TWO SUPPORT VESSELS (MS-223 AND MS-224) CONDUCTING CREW/BOAT SWAP OUTS AND REPROVISIONING OF FOOD, FUEL, AND OTHER NECESSARY SUPPLIES. TOWARD THE END OF THE PERIOD, ONE OF THE TWO TEMPORARY FOBS WAS CLOSED AND THE OTHER REDUCED IN SIZE BECAUSE OF THE RAPID DECREASE IN THE WATER LEVEL OF THE RIVERS IN THIS

REGION. WLE FORCES OPERATING FROM THIS BASE SWITCHED TO LIGHTER, SHALLOWER DRAFT CANOES TO CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS AT EXERTING A LAW ENFORCEMENT PRESENCE.

(B) NAS FUNDED PROJECT WORK ON THE MS-103, "COMANDANTE ARANDIA", CONTINUED TO PROGRESS TOWARD COMPLETION AND IS SCHEDULED FOR COMMISSIONING ON

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 *****/
SEPTEMBER 2, 1992. USING BOTH NAS AND MILGRP RESOURCES, THE BOLIVIAN NAVY HAS COMMENCED CONSTRUCTION OF A COMBINED OFFICE/COMMAND CENTER ON THE BIM IN TRINIDAD TO REPLACE THE LEASED OFFICE SPACE NAS WAS OBLIGED TO GIVE UP EARLIER THIS YEAR. THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 1992.

(C) U.S. COAST GUARD MEMBERS OF DEA SNOWCAP OVERSAW OPERATIONS PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF THE WLE PORTION OF OPERATION GHOST ZONE IN ADDITION TO THEIR CONTINUED INSTITUTIONAL BUILDING EFFORTS. THEY CONDUCTED A TOTAL OF 5.5 DAYS OF TRAINING DURING THE MONTH WITH BOLIVIAN NAVY AND UMOPAR. INSTRUCTION INCLUDED: PATROL BOAT POWERPLANT TROUBLE SHOOTING, OUTBOARD ENGINE SYSTEMS AND ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES.

BOWERS

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